

Looking ahead

Leaders set agenda
for upcoming year/page 3

Bureaucratic delay

Housing Authority seat
finally filled/page 3

Education offerings

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The Arlington Advocate

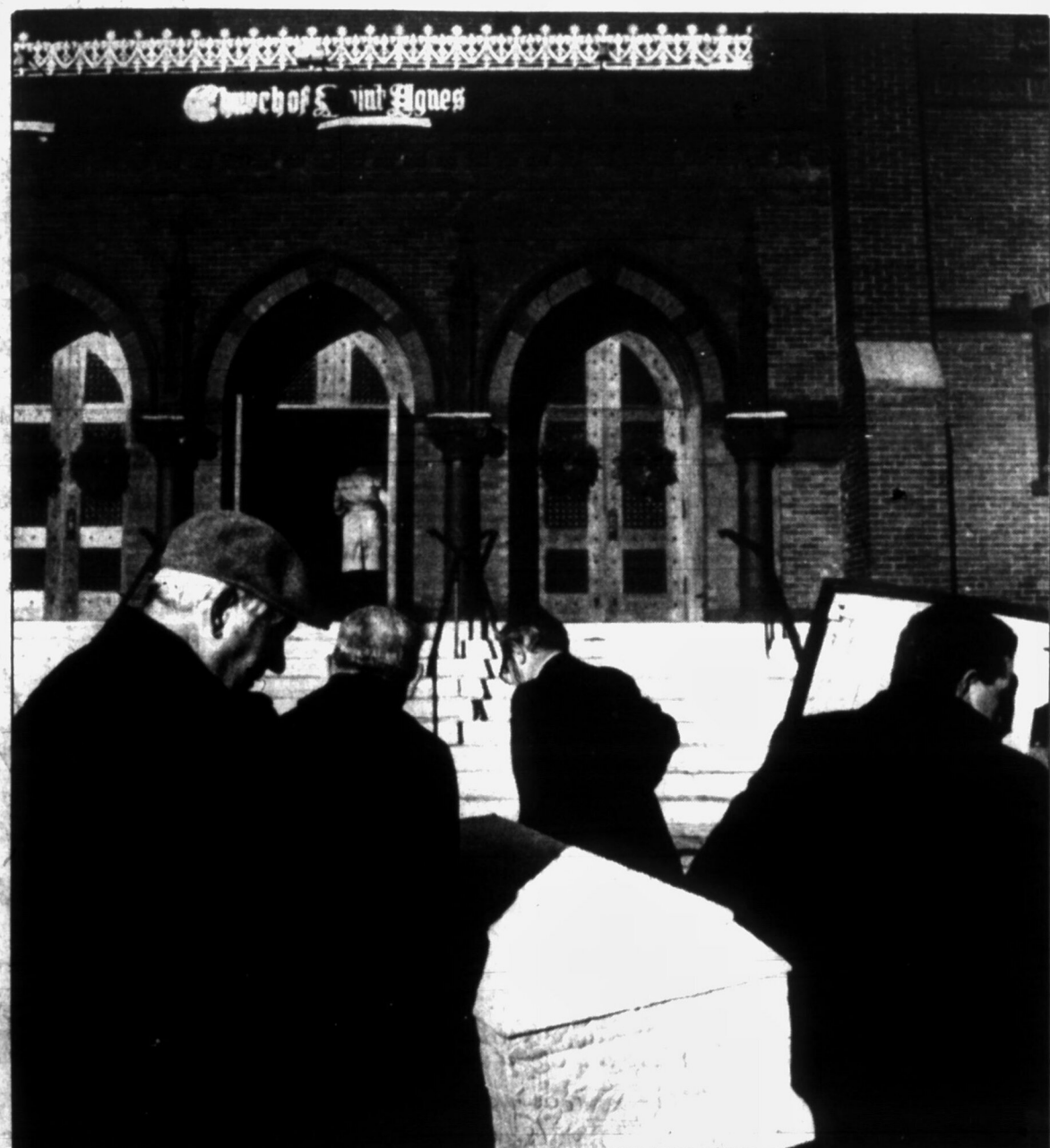
VOL. 116, NO. 2

Thursday, January 7, 1988

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2 Sections

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Some 250 people attended the funeral of accident victim Whitney Bridget Scott at St. Agnes Church. The 10-year-old girl was the victim of a traffic accident on New Year's Eve. (Paul Drake photo)

Driver charged

Town mourning victim of accident

By CAROL BEGGY
Advocate Assistant Editor

More than 250 family members, friends and neighbors filled St. Agnes Church Tuesday for an emotional service to mourn Whitney Bridget Scott, a 10-year-old who was killed in an accident on New Year's Eve.

Scott, a fourth grader at the Thompson School, was struck and killed by an out-of-control oil truck on Warren Street last Thursday afternoon.

"We are struggling. Struggling to understand what has happened," said Rev. Jerome Gillespie, a priest at St. Agnes Church who delivered the homily. "Perhaps dealing with the question of why will be the most painful of all."

Shortly after 1 p.m. on New Year's Eve, a 1971 Pontiac driven by Paul V. Flynn, 23, of Cottage Street, allegedly ran a stop sign on Franklin Street and cut off a truck on Warren Street, said John Carroll, director of police.

The two vehicles collided at the intersection and traveled on Warren Street toward Medford Street, Carroll said. The blue sedan veered off and struck a tree while the heating oil truck jumped the curb near 139 Warren St., stuck and killed Scott, according to the police reports.

Flynn was charged with motor vehicle homicide and driving to endanger, Carroll said. A hearing on the charges is scheduled for this week, he said.



Whitney Bridget Scott

Scott, of Franklin Street, had been walking with her sister, Teddi, 23, of Washington, D.C., who was home visiting for the holidays. The two sisters were walking on the sidewalk when they were struck by the truck, Carroll said.

The Oil Express delivery truck hit Scott and a mowed over a tree and a fence before coming to a rest in the driveway at 141 Warren St.

The tank of the truck was not punctured and there was no threat of an oil spill or fire, police said.

An army of police, firefighters and rescue personnel worked to help those involved in the accident, but were unable to save Scott.

The girl was pronounced dead at the scene by Middlesex County Medical Examiner C. George Hori, police said. Teddi Scott was taken by ambulance to Symmes Hospital emergency room, where she was treated for minor injuries and later released, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Aileen M. Flynn, 53, mother of the driver of the pontiac and a passenger in the car, was admitted to the hospital for multiple injuries and was released on Jan. 2, the spokeswoman said.

Paul Flynn and the driver of the oil truck, David P. Trecartin of Woburn, were not injured.

Carroll said charges were brought against Flynn after police interviews with witnesses revealed that Flynn may have gone through the stop sign and caused the accident.

"Although the oil truck hit the girl, it appears the Flynn vehicle may have been responsible for the accident so he was charged," said Carroll.

Scott's death is the second pedestrian fatality in Arlington this year. In October, a 31-year-old jogger was killed in a hit-and-run accident on Route 2.

Until last Thursday, however, it had been three years since a pedestrian was killed on an Arlington street. (Please see SCOTT, page 9)

Squeeze getting tighter on town purse strings

By DANA GARDNER
Advocate Editor

Like a car low on gas in the desert, Arlington's fiscal motor is sputtering, its ability to move ahead limited and chances of finding new fuel unlikely, a Bank of Boston report on town finances concludes.

Even under the best of circumstances, the town is headed toward budget deficits in the next two years, the report finds. A worst-case projection, if inflation returns, shows grow-

ing deficits in all of the next five years.

But the town, like all others in Massachusetts, must balance its budget from year to year. That translates into begging the state for help, or local cuts and layoffs.

The town, which now derives 25 percent of its revenue from state aid, could be left stranded — high and dry — if the state's priorities change or the economy performs poorly, the report says.

On the bright side, the town collects

its taxes excellently, has kept fixed costs low and has been able to stave off cuts in services through good management despite nearly stagnant revenues and increasing costs, the report says.

Since 1984, Bank of Boston has been hired as a consultant to perform a fiscal examination of the town. The first report was commissioned by Town Treasurer John Balafer who saw what he considers dangerous depletion of town cash reserves in the years since Proposition 2½ and the resulting

limits on property tax receipts.

Balafer still questions the prudence of town policy makers, and criticizes what he sees as the haphazard routine of scrounging in the nooks and crannies of the budget to balance routine operating expenses from year to year.

And while not everyone shares Balafer's opinion on the role of free cash, Prop. 2½ overrides and budgetary priorities, no one believes he or the consultant is crying wolf about the future.

Most people in the know — from state senators to fiscal analysts to selectmen — agree that Arlington's fiscal outlook is nothing better than bleak.

"It will get worse and worse every year," said Town Manager Donald Marquis last month. "The town is in deep trouble financially."

In this fiscal year alone, the manager is seeking in special Town Meeting \$260,000 in unanticipated costs for group health insurance premiums.

Initial projections for the next fiscal budget year beginning in July showed a \$700,000 shortfall in budget requests to expected revenues.

"... Arlington continues to face a very tight financial situation over the next five years. Even under the best of circumstances, we project that the town will have deficits in 1989 and 1990 ...," the Bank of Boston report says in its summary.

Town officials have begun talking (Please see FISCAL, page 7)

Finding home grown heroes

By ANNE-MARIE SELTZER
Special to the Advocate

In an age when many people look to celebrities like Clint Eastwood, Eddie Murphy and Sylvester Stallone for heroic inspiration, community psychologist Bill Berkowitz has written a book about another brand of hero: ordinary people with extraordinary community accomplishments.

In LOCAL HEROES, Berkowitz profiles 22 people who, like the classic heroes of mythology, saw a need, took a risk, and harvested the fruits of their labors. During a recent interview in his Arlington home, Berkowitz defined heroism in America as well as his book, which was published in November and includes interviews with area residents Frank Bowes and Fran Froehlich.

"We hear the term 'hero' used in many different ways today," said Berkowitz. "For instance, you can be a hero by giving to a college fundraising campaign, or by wearing American Hero Jeans. These uses often trivialize and demean the work. Through this book, I'm trying to provide an alternative use of the term, one that is truer to the definition in the classical sense."

"In mythology, there was always a person-the hero-who embarked on a journey, took a risk in doing so, encountered obstacles or demons along the way, struggled to overcome them, and, in doing so, brought back fruits of the labor. In that same spirit, the people of LOCAL HEROES also heard a call, followed it, and brought something back to share with others."

One of Berkowitz's chief criticisms about today's society is its emphasis on the celebrity as hero. According to Berkowitz, a recent poll shows that Clint Eastwood and Eddie Murphy are the favorite heroes among people ages 18-24; among high school students, Tom Cruise is the most popular. "Celebrity heroes are useful because they can entertain and perform for us, and provide a diversion," said Berkowitz. "However, kids and



Arlington resident Bill Berkowitz casts off the modern claim of celebrities as heroes in his new book, saying true heroes are those who work against odds to shape and move local communities for the better. (Paul Drake photos)

adults need other heroes as well, persons who bring people together.

"One of this country's biggest unmet needs is developing community. Celebrity heroes don't do that. They isolate us because we tend to

watch them in the privacy of our homes. One of the hot spots in town on a Saturday night is the local video store and I think that's unfortunate. We all need privacy, but the weight (Please see HERO, page 10)

Group seeking home for houses

By CAROL BEGGY
Advocate Assistant Editor

To the members of the Affordable Housing Task Force the situation is both frustrating and confusing — they can't give houses away.

For nearly two years, the task force has worked to find new locations for two houses that are owned by Bank Five.

The East Arlington houses are currently located on a block slated for a new office-retail development by the bank. They were offered free to the task force, but group had to find land and move the buildings.

"It has been frustrating. We first heard about the houses we thought, 'This is great.' I never thought we would have so much trouble trying to find a place for the houses," said Robert Murray, chairman of the task force and the Housing Corporation of Arlington.

What resulted, however, was two years of trying to locate land for the

three-family homes. "We never thought it would be this difficult," said Murray, a former selectman.

The task force has been in negotiations since the summer to locate one of the two homes on a piece of land in East Arlington next to and owned by the Trinity Baptist Church, 115 Mass. Ave.

Under the task force plan, the church would be given the home, but it would have to maintain the three units as affordable housing.

But after months of discussions, the church's executive committee turned down the offer, saying they did not have the financial or human resources to be responsible for a house.

"I think it was a case of my being new here and we didn't want to spread our resources too thin," said Rev. Harold C. Small, pastor of the church. Small said the church supports efforts to establish and maintain affordable housing, but the offer of the house came at a bad time.

The church is currently undergoing major renovations. Besides his work in Arlington, Small serves full-time as a chaplain for the Veterans Home and Hospital in Chelsea.

"I worked in Revere on housing issues and believe in the need for affordable places for people to live," said Small. "I can look at our congregation and see that younger people can't afford to buy homes in Arlington."

The churches' is not the only denial the task force has received.

Last year, the task force failed in getting Town Meeting approval to put one of the buildings on a 16,000-square-foot piece of town-owned land on Lakehill Avenue in East Arlington.

Area residents lobbied against the move, saying it would ruin the quality of the neighborhood. Murray said some of the same people have lobbied against moving the houses to other areas in East Arlington.

"Some issues become very emotional," said Small. (Please see HOUSING, page 10)

Sancta Maria plans nursing facility

Sancta Maria Hospital, a 150-bed medical/surgical care hospital in operation in Cambridge since 1948, announced plans recently to seek state approval to convert 50 acute care beds into a 41-bed Skilled Nursing Facility. If approved, the entire fifth floor of the hospital would provide "transitional" or short-term care for patients needing additional treatment prior to a return home or a long-term placement.

The proposal has been formally submitted to the state Department of Public Health and must be approved through the Determination of Need process, which reviews changes proposed by hospitals and other health care providers.

Sancta Maria Hospital is operated by the Daughters of Mary of the Im-

maculate Conception and is a non-profit Catholic institution. It offers a full range of medical and surgical services.

According to the hospital's officials, a Skilled Nursing Facility would help meet an identified need in the surrounding communities for post-acute care beds, which are most often needed by elderly patients. The area population, including Arlington, has a high percentage of elderly citizens, a demographic trend which is expected to continue over the next several years.

Hospital President Sister Mary Mark said: "Sancta Maria, along with the majority of community hospitals, has felt the impact of Medicare's regulations — Diagnostic Related Group (DRGs) — which

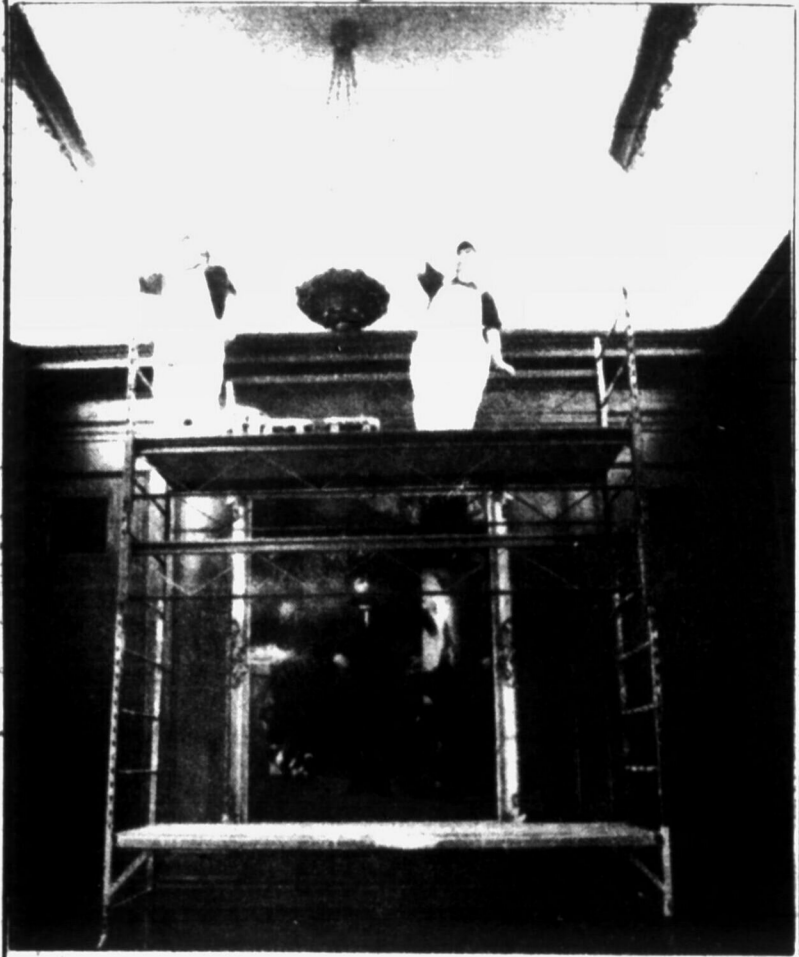
place limits on medical reimbursements. The DRGs have resulted in decreased hospital admissions and shortened lengths of stay. Since a large percentage of our patients are covered by Medicare and the communities which we serve have an increasing number of elderly citizens, we feel a Skilled Nursing Facility would be an excellent way for us to service our patients and our communities."

Sancta Maria Hospital's Director of Social Services Lois Ward noted that the closest available Medicare certified beds are in Lexington.

If approved, the new unit would include dining, recreation and therapy areas.

Sancta Maria Hospital hopes to open the facility by January 1989.

Gleaming



Painters Don Nigro, left, and Frank Zavaglia finish the interior refurbishing of town hall, which has been under way for several months. The inside paint job, which greatly beautifies town hall, could only be done once the leaks in the roof and water damage were fixed over the summer and fall. All rooms and corridors in town hall have now been repainted.

(Paul Drake photo)

Yearly town census query forms in mail

Residents on the current town voter list will soon receive an annual town census form in the mail.

The census is used to verify and update voter registration logs and provide information for the True List of Persons.

Failure to respond to the query may result in names being dropped from the official voter registration list used at polling places.

Town Clerk Ann Powers said the forms can easily be filled out by updating the information on them and then sending it back to the clerk's office.

If the clerk does not receive a cen-

sus back, a second reminder is sent. After that the names are pulled from the official list.

The census is also used to draw school district lines by defining where the school-age children in town live. Other demographic information is also compiled from the results. Residents are asked to fill out the forms completely and promptly.

While completion of the form does not take the place of registering in person to vote, it does protect the right to vote by serving as proof of residence.

Tentative election schedule released

A tentative list of dates to coincide with the town elections this year has

been released by Town Clerk Ann Powers.

The list, subject to change, stands as:

- Feb. 18, last day for candidates to pull nomination papers. They have until 5 p.m.

- Feb. 22, last day, at 5 p.m., for Town Meeting members running for re-election to give written notice thereof.

- Feb. 29, last day, at 5 p.m., for all nomination papers to be at registrar of voters office for certification of signatures.

- March 8, presidential primary election.

- March 14, last day, at 5 p.m., for filing nomination paper with town clerk.

- March 15, last day, at 5 p.m., last

day and hour for filing withdrawals of nomination papers.

- March 18, 10 p.m., last day to register to vote in town election.

- April 9, annual town election.

- April 25, annual Town Meeting

Nominations open for 186 meeting member positions

Persons interested in becoming Town Meeting members from the precincts in which they reside are urged to gather the required 10 signatures to have their names placed on the April

Please see page 7

Friends of Drama opens auditions for musical

The Arlington Friends of the Drama announce auditions for the musical *Dear World* by Jerome Lawrence, Robert E. Lee and Jerry Herman on Thursday, Jan. 21 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 23 and 24 at 2 p.m. at their theatre, 22 Academy St., Arlington Center (off Massachusetts Avenue). Stage direction by Louise Licklider. Musical direction by David Testa.

The place is Paris, the time is "tomorrow morning." This musical version of "The Madwoman of Chaillot" is sentimental, but not cloying; ideological, but not preachy — and

Jerry Herman's hummable score will leave you happy and, above all, hopeful.

Each role provides a challenging opportunity for a vivid and rich characterization. The cast calls for three "madwomen": the Countess, Constance and Gabrielle; Nina, the young ingenue; Julian, the young male love interest; many character parts of all ages including "the street people" one of whom must be able to juggle and one who can pass for do-

ing sign language.

Suggested audition pieces include songs from "Dear World," light Sondheim and Jerry Herman selections. For Countess: "Before the Parade Passes By" ("Hello Dolly"). For Constance and Gabrielle: "I Could Have Danced All Night" (in character as Constance and Gabrielle). For Nina: "I've Never Said I Love You" ("Dear World"). For Julian: "If Ever I Would Leave You" ("Camelot").

Stage Director, Louise Licklider.

has directed two Moss Hart award-winning productions for the Arlington group, "Madwoman of Chaillot" and "Fiddler on the Roof." Musical Director, David Testa, is a vocal coach in Boston and has taught at the New Ehrlich Studio and the Next Move Theatre. He recently produced and directed the touring "Sgt. Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band."

The play will be presented April 8-10, 15-17, 22-24 with a Dress Rehearsal (with audience) on April 3.

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children 15 to 36 months and their parents will be held in the main Robbins Junior Library on Saturday, Jan. 9, at 10:30 a.m. This program will feature a short story and song time followed by an opportunity to try a simple craft, to meet new friends and to play with a variety of age-appropriate toys. No advance sign-up is required.

'Little Women' at Fox branch

The movie "Little Women" will be shown at the Fox Branch Library on Friday, Jan. 8 at 2 and 7:30 p.m.

Katharine Hepburn stars as "Jo" in what is considered to be one of her finest performances, in this early sound version of Louisa May Alcott's classic. Also featured are Joan Ben-

nett, Jean Parker and Frances Dee. It is free to the public.

Coffee-Klatch at Dallin branch

The Friends of the Robbins Library will sponsor a Coffee-Klatch on Jan. 19 at 10 a.m. in the Dallin Branch Library on Park Avenue. Refreshments will be served.

Mary H. White, assistant library director, will discuss pending state legislation affecting the Arlington library system, and plans to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Dallin Branch.

With this meeting, the Friends of Robbins Library initiate a series they expect to be as successful as the Brown Bag luncheons at the Fox Library in East Arlington, now in their third year.

Arlington Infant Toddler Center Notice of Nondiscriminatory Policy as to Students

The Arlington Infant Toddler Center admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and ac-

tivities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

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NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

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Fiscal worries, library expansion dominate '88 agenda

By CAROL BEGGY
Advocate Assistant Editor

As the town recovers from a busy 1987, town leaders are looking to set the agenda for a productive 1988. Some issues that dominated the time of town boards, like the Stop & Shop pool-for-land proposal, won't carry over in the new year. Others such as contracts, budgets, development and better use of town resources are a constant in Arlington politics.

Some issues will be dealt with right away. In the third week of January, the town will hold a Special Town Meeting to deal with insurance proposals, police and firefighter contracts and pay increases for the full-time elected officials. The election season will be gearing up in the next few months as two selectmen, three school committee members, a member of the housing authority and an assessor will all face the voters.

Although it will be falling later this year than in the past, the town will have a full slate of business for the regular Town Meeting in April. Among the issues that takes up at the greatest time of town boards and Town Meeting is the budget. "Every year we have to work on a budget that reflects our needs, but is within reason. So far, I think we've done well this year working with the Finance Committee," said William O'Brien, chairman of the School Com-

mittee, which receives the largest chunk of the town's budget. The School Committee has faced increased budgets in recent years, with much of the increases mandated by the state for special needs students, O'Brien said. "We're not getting adequate funding from the state on programs that are required," said O'Brien. "We are going to have to work on other solutions before we have to cut back or eliminate other school programs,

which won't do us any good in the long run." The town's fiscal situation is always a concern for selectmen, said Chairwoman Janemarie Hillier. Budgets become leaner and departments have been strained in the years since Prop. 2½ limited the amount taxes can be increased. Town leaders are finding they must be more creative in their management while trying to maintain a standard level of services. "It's like the old

miracle worker when we're trying to find new source of revenue," she said. "We're going to have to see people in the town picking up some of the responsibility for town operations and doing things for themselves," said Hillier. Recent measures like requiring town residents to take care of snow removal on their property and asking people to be more conscious of their strains on other town services in (Please see AGENDA, page 7)

Bureaucracy blamed for 16-month Housing Authority vacancy

By CAROL BEGGY
Advocate Assistant Editor

After a 16-month lapse, the state has filed a vacancy on the Arlington Housing Authority. Joseph J. "James" Marzilli, of Brantwood Road, was sworn in on Dec. 22 for a position left vacant on the board when member Franklin W. Hurd Jr. did not seek reappointment. The five-member housing authority oversees the town's public housing

for more than 1,300 low-income and elderly residents. Four of the members are elected in the regular public elections. The fifth member of the board is appointed by the governor's Office of Communities and Development. Hurd's term expired on July 16, 1986 and it took the state nearly 16 months to name his replacement. The delay in appointing a new member was caused by the number of state appointments to housing

authorities and other boards and the extensive review process, said Christine Colvin, a spokeswoman for the state secretary of communities and development. "It's an extensive and sensitive process. A lot of confidential information is collected and reviewed," said Colvin. "Given the number of housing authorities, all of the positions are immediately filled," Colvin said.

There was no one reason that caused the delay in choosing a successor for Hurd, Colvin said, but a combination of delays within the system. Marzilli was chosen by Amy S. Anthony, state secretary of communities and development on Dec. 11 and will serve until July 16, 1991. Although the appointment is for a five-year position on the board, because the choice was late in coming Marzilli will only serve the remainder

of the term which began in 1986. Hurd, of Newton Road, took out papers from the town clerk's office on Jan. 4 to run for the Board of Selectmen. Appointed to the Housing Authority by former Gov. Edward King, Hurd works with computer programming for the state Department of Revenue. He is the son of Franklin W. Hurd Sr.,

who served as a selectman from 1953 to 1960. The current chairman of the authority, John F. Cusack is up for re-election this spring. Cusack, a former state representative and local realtor, has taken out papers to be placed on the spring ballot. The date for the spring election has been set for Saturday, April 9.

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"Good Morning Vietnam" (R)
Sat. 7:30 PM
NUTS (R)
FRI & MON-TH 12:30-2:50-5:00
SAT & SUN 7:20-10:00
FRI-SAT 12:10 AM
BROADCAST NEWS (R)
NO PASSES
12:00-2:30-5:00-7:30-10:10
FRI-SAT 12:30 AM
EDDIE MURPHY RAW (R)
★ 12:30-2:35-5:00-7:30-9:50*
FRI-SAT 12:00 AM
WALT DISNEY'S CINDERELLA (G)
SAT/SUN ONLY
12:00-2:00-3:40-5:20
THE RUNNING MAN (R)
★ 1:00-3:10-5:20-7:20-9:45
FRI-SAT 11:50 PM
OVERBOARD (PG)
★ 12:35-2:50-5:05-7:35-10:00*
FRI-SAT 12:10 AM
NO SHOW FRI AT 7:35
Advance Preview
"Moonstruck" (R)
FRI 7:30
BATTERIES NOT INCLUDED (PG)
★ 12:30-2:45-5:00-7:30-9:45*
FRI-SAT 11:45 PM
WALL STREET (R)
★ 12:10-2:35-5:00-7:30-10:10*
FRI-SAT 12:20 AM
DIRTY DANCING (PG-13)
★ 1:00-3:15-5:30-7:45-10:00
THROW MOMMA FROM THE TRAIN (PG-13)
★ 1:00-3:00-5:15-7:40-10:10*
FRI-SAT 12:00 MID NO PASSES
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President Reagan's candor about his use of a hearing aid focuses attention on the subject. Today, there are more than 20-million Americans suffering from significant hearing loss. Of those 20-million, approximately 90 percent ignore and/or fail to take care of their problems. Many feel, incorrectly, that pride, ego and self-esteem are jeopardized when one chooses to use a hearing aid. The use of a hearing aid by a highly visible figure, such as the President of the United States, should serve as graphic evidence that the use of a hearing aid by any individual is a positive step toward proper health care. If you wish to make that step please phone.
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Education program offers varied menu

The Arlington Public School's Winter Community Education Program begins their afternoon and evening classes for adults and children the week of Jan. 25 with new course offerings for all age groups.

An exciting new course for children is Cosmos, an after school hands-on science program sponsored by the Museum of Science. Three Cosmos courses, each with five weeks of classes, will meet once a week for one hour to investigate sound, magnetism, or meteorology. Each course will be taught for lower, middle, and upper elementary age children. Sounds Abound will begin the week of Jan. 25. Magnetism the week of March 14, and Meteorology the week of April 25. The day of the week that the classes are held will depend upon enrollment and parents are urged to provide a first and second choice for the day of the week preferred.

Classes will be held from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at Arlington High School and the cost of each 5-week course is \$50.

Awesome Acting Adventures (grades 4-7) and Creative Writing with the Computer (grades 4-8) are two other new additions to the after school program. Children may select two computer courses. Fun with LOGO (grades 4-6) and Fun and Enrichment (grades 2-4). Typing for students in grades 4-8, Drawing and Painting for students in grades 4-7, are also offered. Student courses will be held from 3:30-5 p.m. and cost \$45 for a ten-week cost.

Daytime courses for adults include Dynamic Dramatics (Thursday, 10-11:30 a.m. for 10 weeks, Computers and You (Wednesdays, 3:30-5 p.m. for 10 weeks), and Investment Advice for Retirees (Tuesdays, 9-10 a.m. for 3 weeks). The 10-week courses cost \$30 (\$20 for Senior Citizens). Classes will be held at the

Arlington Senior Center with the exception of the computer course which will be held at Arlington High School. Additional information on the day time courses can also be obtained by calling 646-1000, ext. 3125 or ext. 4740.

What's new in the evening program? You can build your own computer, using only a screwdriver, if you select Build Your Own IBM XT Compatible Computer. Your water coloring talents will be developed with Artistic Experiences and Understanding Acupuncture will provide you with new insights about this century old practice.

Adult evening classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday nights, starting at 7 p.m. Most classes cost \$40 for a 10-week course, exceptions are noted. All courses are discounted for Senior citizens. Tuesday night offerings start Jan. 26 and include Art, Artistic Experiences, Building Your Own IBM XT Compatible Computer (4 meetings over two weeks, \$35), Clothing, the Crash of 87 (2 weeks, \$15), dBase III and Information Management (\$70), English as a Second Language, Flower Design by You (\$40), French-Conversational Beginners, G.E.D. Preparation (Tuesday and Thursday \$45), Holiday Decorations, Introduction to Computers (\$70), Investment Advice for Retirees (3 weeks, \$20), Knitting I;

Low Impact Aerobics (Tuesday and Thursday) Let's Make Up, Making Your Money Grow (5 weeks, \$25), Appleworks (\$70), Practical Business Math, Silk Flower Arranging, Typing-Beginning, Understanding Acupuncture (4 weeks, \$20), and Wordprocessing (\$70).

Thursday night offerings start Jan. 28 and include Art, Estate and Estate Planning (4 weeks, \$25), French-Conversational Intermediate, Investment Alternatives (5 weeks, \$25), LOTUS 1-2-3 (\$70), Music Appreciation (5 weeks, \$25), Appleworks (\$70), Photography, Practical English Review, Slipcovers and Draperies, Spanish II, Typing Intermediate, and Wordprocessing (\$70).

Mail in registration (checks only please), runs from Jan. 4 to Jan. 20. One evening registration will be held at Arlington High School on Tuesday Jan. 12 from 7-9 p.m. People may also register from 8-11 a.m., Tuesday through Thursday, at the Arlington Community Education Office at Arlington High School.

A brochure containing course descriptions and more detailed information is available at the local libraries or the Arlington Community Education Office. For additional information please contact Linda Garrity, 646-1000, ext. 3125.

Blade runner

Gabe Peters, 12, shows fine skating form Sunday while enjoying the ice at Menotomy Rocks Park. The parks department floods certain fields around town for safe skating, but police warn that skating on Spy Pond and other ponds is unpredictable and they do not sanction it. (George Ferrar photo)

Glen Wise AGS

Jewelry Fashions, Facts, Fiction

By David Swanson

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Jewelry is a treat to own, a treat to wear. Part of what makes it special is that it is valued in our culture as a sign that a person has arrived — the career is going well, the relationship is a good one, the promises made will be kept.

When you make your resolutions for the coming year, resolve to treat yourself as the special person you are, as a person who has arrived at a point in life when you recognize your value.

Look at your watch. Are you wearing a watch you are proud of? Fashion watches are fun and there is nothing wrong with wearing them. You might, however, plan to give yourself a watch of substance, a watch of gold and/or diamonds. Any watch will do, but if you're ready to make nice to yourself instead of making due it might be time to consider a treat.

How about your hands. Are you wearing a ring you enjoy now at your present position in life? You may be wearing a wedding ring and you may be wearing other kinds of rings. In fact, they may be just what you want. If not, consider having those special gems given in love set in a new way that continues to bring you pleasure and that says how valuable you are. People buying engagement rings these days are thinking in terms of two months' salary. For your present status in life, a resolution to make that kind of loving commitment to yourself may be warranted.

Perhaps there are other jewelry items you have admired but considered out of reach. This year might be your year to think about giving yourself that desired pearl necklace or that beautiful pendant. Come treat yourself.

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Louise Ruma-Ivers is a director of the Massachusetts Association of Realtors, treasurer of the Massachusetts Women's Council of Realtors and a past president of the Greater Boston Women's Council of Realtors. She serves on the Arlington Historic Districts Commission and its Fair Housing Committee.

Dot Stein is a president of the Greater Boston Multiple Listing Service, a director of the Massachusetts Association of Realtors and past vice president of the Greater Boston Real Estate Board. She is a director of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce, former School Committee and Town Meeting member.

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MASS Home Center

Cold chore



A bitter wind makes an errand uncomfortably cold last week for a haphazardly bundled bicyclist working her way up Mystic Valley Parkway. (Paul Drake photo)

St. Agnes dance is Jan. 16

The monthly dance sponsored by St. Agnes Social Club will be held on Saturday, Jan. 16, from 8 p.m. to midnight at St. Agnes School Hall. Music will be provided by the Freddie Dee orchestra. Admission price is \$4 per person, payable at the door. Table reservations for 4 or more can be made by calling 646-0446, 648-9503, or 648-9561.

Amnesty group sets meeting

The next meeting of the Amnesty International local group for Arlington and Somerville will take place on Tuesday, Jan. 12 at 7:30 p.m. at 30

Bonad Road in Arlington. New members are welcome.

Further information may be obtained by calling Bill Swartz at 646-2851.

Amnesty International is an independent worldwide movement working impartially for the release of all prisoners of conscience, fair and prompt trials for political prisoners, and the end of torture and executions. Winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, it is funded by donations from its members and supporters throughout the world.

Philharmonic rehearsals

The Arlington Philharmonic Orchestra resumes rehearsals Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. at the

Unitarian-Universalist Church of Arlington, 630 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington.

Music will be rehearsed for both the March 13 and May 1 concerts including the Faure REQUIEM, SYMPHONY NO. 2 by Hanson, and the music for the popular Family Concert.

The Orchestra is open to all interested musicians. For information call 643-8441.

Mass Bay offers free seminar

Massachusetts Bay Community College will hold free word processing workshops and hands-on demonstrations at the college's Wellesley Hills campus, 50 Oakland

St., on Thursday, Jan. 7 at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The seminars will focus on training and job opportunities available in office management, office information and other high paying fields. For further information contact George Krieger, Massachusetts Bay Community College, 237-1100 extension 273 or 872-4067.

Chorale resumes

The Arlington-Belmont Chorale resumes rehearsals Mondays, 8 p.m. at the St. Paul Lutheran Church, 929 Concord Turnpike, Arlington.

The Chorale is open to all interested singers. For information call 648-8585.

Central American Committee to set strategy

A program entitled, "Honduras, Staging Ground for Conflict," will be presented by Eric Shultz of the Honduran Information Center on Wednesday, Jan. 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Pleasant Street Congregational Church in Arlington Center.

Shultz's presentation will focus on the effects of U.S. military presence and Nicaraguan Contra forces are having on the lives of the people of Honduras. Honduras has been the recipient of massive amounts of U.S. military aid over the past decade, and

yet it continues to be one of the poorest nations in our hemisphere.

Shultz is a staff member of the Honduran Information Center in Somerville. The center is the only clearinghouse for current information regarding the human rights and military situations in Honduras in the United States.

This program is the second in a series entitled, "The Effects of Violence on the People of Central America," which is sponsored by the Arlington Central America Commit-

tee. A number of Arlingtonians have expressed an interest in learning more about the human rights situation in Central America, and this series was designed to take advantage of the fact that a number of individuals with human rights expertise are based in the Greater Boston area.

The remaining presentations in this series will include Sr. Jeanne

Gallo speaking on Feb. 8 about the effects of civil war on the people of Nicaragua, and members of the Cambridge Sister City Project speaking on March 16 about the hope of Sister Cities for El Salvador. All presentations will be held at the Pleasant Street Congregational Church, 75 Pleasant St. in Arlington at 7:30 p.m.

Remmert to address League of Voters

At meetings planned for Jan. 12 and 13, the League of Women Voters of Arlington will her Robbins Library Director Maryellen Remmert discuss the town's library system and its future.

The League in Arlington has had a strong interest in the local library system, supporting measures to improve the collection, services, and the library buildings. League members participated in the successful effort to pass the Library Reconstruction bill this year.

Director Remmert will give a brief overview of the present library system, including the two branches, and will explain the status of ideas for expansion. Renovation of the library would be the last major improvement of a large town building, the community safety and high school facilities having already been modernized. Remmert stresses that the library project is contingent upon the uncertain outcome of the process for winning a state grant under the newly passed legislation.

The morning meeting will take place on Tuesday, Jan. 12, at the home of Anna Goettle, 12 Monadnock Rd. Babysitting will be available. An orientation at 9:30 a.m. for new and prospective members will precede the main program. (The storm date is Jan. 13, same time and place.)

The meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 13, will begin at 8 p.m. (orientation for new prospective members at 7:30 p.m.) at the home of Elizabeth Thompson, 60 Spy Pond Land. (The storm date for this meeting is Jan. 19, same time and place.)



Library Director Maryellen Remmert

Advertisement
Diet Pills Sweeping U.S.

Doctors Invent 'Lazy Way' to Lose Weight

New 'Fat Magnet' Diet Pill Guarantees Fast Weight Loss

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The fat-magnet pills have just been offered to the American public and are already sweeping the country with record sales and reports of dramatic weight loss. It's the "lazy way" to lose weight for people who enjoy eating.

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If you need to lose 20, 50, 100 pounds or more, you can order your supply of these new highly successful fat-magnet pills (now available from the doctor's exclusive manufacturer by mail or phone order only) by sending \$20 for a 90 pill supply (+\$2 handling), or \$35 for a 180 pill supply (+\$3 handling), cash, check or money order to: Fat-Magnet, 9016 Wilshire Blvd., Dept. W 14, Beverly Hills, CA 90211. (Unconditional money-back guarantee if not 100% satisfied.) Visa, MasterCard and American Express OK. (Send card number, expire date, and signature.) For fastest service for credit card orders ONLY call anytime 24 hours, toll-free 1(800)527-9700, ext. W 14.

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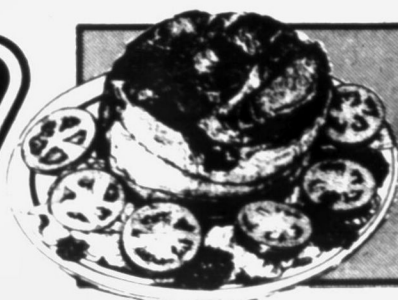
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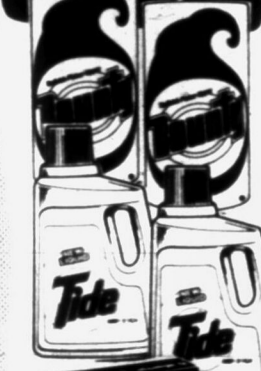
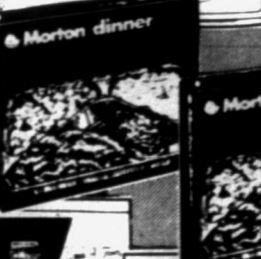
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POLICE LOG

Arrests

A 37-year-old Lexington man was arrested on Dec. 29 at Park Avenue and Paul Revere Road and charged with drinking in public.

On Dec. 29, a 19-year-old Boston man was arrested by Arlington Police for outstanding motor vehicle warrants as he was being released from the Billerica House of Correction.

A 22-year-old Gardner Street man was arrested by Somerville Police on Jan. 1 on outstanding Arlington warrants for larceny in a building and receiving stolen property.

On Jan. 1, a 23-year-old Cambridge man was arrested by Arlington police following an apparent dispute with a friend near Franklin and Warren streets. The man allegedly slashed some tires and was then charged with malicious destruction of property and disorderly conduct.

Two Lexington men were arrested after police responded to a call about a fight at the Arlington/Lexington town line on Jan. 1 just before 11 p.m.

A 17-year-old man was charged with being a minor in possession of alcohol and another Lexington man was charged with assault with a dangerous weapon — a baseball bat.

On Jan. 2, a 23-year-old Rockaway Lane man was arrested at his home on outstanding traffic warrants from several police departments.

A 20-year-old Dundee Road man was stopped on Jan. 3 for speeding and driving the wrong way on court street and found to be in default on an outstanding traffic warrant. The man was also charged with two counts of being a minor in possession of alcohol.

On Jan. 3, a 22-year-old Woburn

man was arrested on Mass. Avenue after being pulled over for driving on the wrong side of the road. The man was charged with failure to keep right and operating under the influence of alcohol.

Larcenies

On Dec. 30, a representative of the First Parish Church, 814 Mass. Ave., reported some cash and children's furniture had been taken from the Children's Center at the church sometime since Christmas Eve.

A Hamilton Road woman told police on Jan. 2 that someone had broken into her car and took a portable radio and Christmas gifts valued at \$500.

On Jan. 2, a Linwood Street man reported that someone had forced open his car and took a Panasonic stereo, valued at \$250.

A Boston man reported on Jan. 2 that the windows of his 1987 Honda had been broken while the car was parked on Oakland Avenue and a \$600 Alpine radio was missing.

On Jan. 3, residents of Purcell Road told police that someone had taken a man's coat and a woman's purse from their front hall.

Also on Jan. 3, a Sylvia Street woman reported that a car radio had been taken from her 1986 Volkswagen.

Break-ins

A resident of Newport street reported that someone had attempted to break into his home by prying open a kitchen window.

Vandalism

On Dec. 28, a resident of Highland

Avenue reported that Christmas decorations had been taken from the front of the house.

A Westmoreland Avenue man told police three 3-foot by 3-foot windows had been broken and eggs had been thrown at his house.

Two 3-foot by 7-foot window panes were reportedly smashed on Dec. 31 at the Chestnut Manor, 54 Medford St., by three unknown youths.

On Jan. 1, a window of a new 1988 GMC truck was reported broken by someone from Hodgdon-Noyes at 835 Mass. Ave.

A representative of Cross Stitch Unlimited, 127 Mass. Ave., reported on Jan. 1 a 3-foot by 8-foot window had been smashed overnight.

A 4-foot by 4-foot window of a doctor's office on Mill Street had also been smashed during the early morning of Jan. 1.

On Jan. 2, two residents of Gardner Street reported that tires on their cars had been slashed sometime the night before.

A 6-foot by 8-foot window at the Willow Wash Laundry, 807 Mass. Ave., was reported broken on Jan. 2.

Miscellaneous

At 4:15 a.m. on Jan. 4, firefighters responded to a truck fire at the corner of Mass. Avenue and Pleasant Street after a town-owned sander and snowplow caught fire.

No one was injured in the fire and the 1977 GMC truck was damaged on the front and hood area.

From page 2

9 ballot.

Because the boundaries of several town precincts were redrawn, 186 vacancies exist in the annual Town Meeting member roster.

Town Meeting members are elected for three-year terms, but several seats are vacant for two- and one-year terms as well, said Town Clerk Ann Powers.

Members must meet certain eligibility requirements. Questions should be directed to the clerk's office in Town hall or by calling 646-1000.

Each of the town's 21 precincts has 12 Town Meeting members who represent the rest of the residents in the district under Arlington's representative Town Meeting form of government.

In 11 of the 21 precincts, all 12 member positions are up for grabs due to the redistricting last year.

The fervor for democracy in practice, however, has been less than sufficient in recent years to fill all the Town Meeting member seats, Powers said.

Last year, for example, 25 seats remained vacant due to lack of persons seeking nomination and election.

Many times, said Powers, all a person need do is gather 10 signatures to be elected. Many positions run unopposed.

For those who are already Town Meeting members and will be running for re-election, they must sign a form by Feb. 22 to have their name appear on the ballot.

All those who were members at the time of the last annual Town Meeting, in 1987, will continue to be valid

TOWN HALL ROUNDUP

members for the Special Town Meeting on Jan. 25.

Hearing on Jan. 11 for input on cable license transfer

A public hearing is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 11 in the selectmen's board room in town hall for input on the request to transfer the town's cable TV license.

American Cablesystems Corp. of Beverly, parent company of Arlington Cablesystems, was merged recently with Continental Cablevision Inc. of Boston.

American Cablesystems will

become a wholly owned subsidiary of Continental, a multi-billion dollar national cable TV systems operator based in Boston.

Continental has requested that the selectmen, the town's licensing authority, transfer the current license from Cablesystems to Continental.

Representatives from both American Cablesystems and Continental will be on hand Monday at the hearing.

According to Town Counsel John Maher, the transfer creates the question of whether the new company will be able to fulfill the contract signed by the old company.

In addition to the public hearing on the cable TV license, public hearings will also be called for eight of the 14 articles on the special Town Meeting warrant, which is scheduled to be called Jan. 25.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Nature programs at Beaver Brook

The Metropolitan District Commission's Reservations and Historic Site Group is offering a wide range of free, outdoor winter events at Beaver Brook Reservation for everyone to enjoy.

Programs for the month of January are:

Are Ducks All Wet? Friday, Jan. 8 from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Enjoy an interesting walk to discover the ducks of Beaver Brook. Learn why the resident ducks of Beaver Brook

don't migrate and other characteristics of birds. Meet at the duck pond.

My Stars Saturday, Jan. 9 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. This is a special astronomy program for kids and their parents at the historic Plympton House. Find out how to produce a star show in your own home with equipment you can make yourself using inexpensive materials. There will also be a short talk on astronomy, along with activities, refreshments and prizes for everyone! Call ahead for reservations at 484-6357.

Walking Seeds Friday, Jan. 15 from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. This is a one-hour walk in the woods.

Officials outline agenda with priorities for year

(Continued from page 3)

cluding water and sewage usage and amounts of trash.

"The issues of water conservation and paying attention to how much we put out for trash are going to be big areas of concern," said Hillier.

"In the near future water bills will be equal to tax bills," said Hillier, referring to the proposed increases in water costs to help finance the clean-up of Boston Harbor.

One area where the help of townspeople is needed, Hillier said, is the proposed library expansion and renovation.

Several hundred thousand dollars is going to have to be raised privately in addition to a town bond issue and the possible money the town will receive from a state grant program.

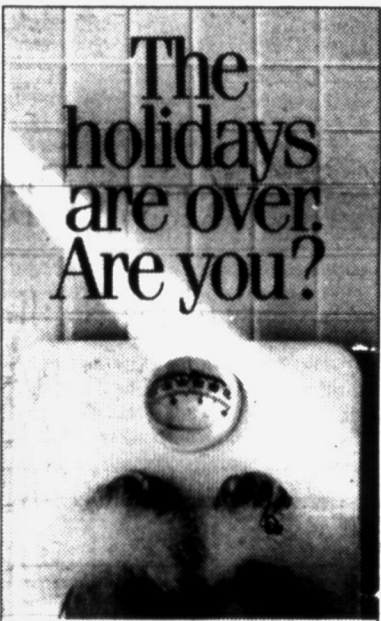
"We need a good library and the town's help is needed. The money for all the projects we'd like to do in the town just isn't available. People are going to have to pitch in," said Hillier.

Other issues facing the selectmen this year are, according to Hillier:

- Halting large-scale future development that would change the character of the town, but continuing to improve the appearance and quality of the town.
- Addressing fair housing concerns, as more young families and those with low or moderate incomes are being forced out of the Arlington housing market.

look at the curriculum but at the time the students have to absorb it. Extended kindergarten will allow students time to also relax, play and develop."

The committee will also be looking at expanding adult education and programs for the elderly. "There is a growing support and desire for us to offer more programs to the adults in town," said O'Brien.



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Comment

ROLL CALL

BEACON HILL ROLL CALL
Volume 14-Report No. 1
Massachusetts House
December 28, 1987-January 1, 1988

The House. "Beacon Hill Roll Call" records local representatives' votes on seven roll calls.

Education Package (H 6371). House 129-25, refused to reconsider earlier approval of a \$15 million education package which adds to the education reform act passed in 1985. Provisions include establishment of a system of educational improvement recognition grants to be awarded to individual schools and an increase in the local option minimum teacher salary from \$18,000 to \$20,000 with the increase paid by the state for the first two years.

Reconsideration supporters said the bill was being rushed through the House and is flawed.

Reconsideration opponents said this is a bill which will help students and teachers throughout the state.

A Yea vote is for reconsidering passage. A Nay vote is for the bill.

Representative Robert Havern voted no.

Representative Mary Jane Gibson voted no.

REACH (H 6371). House 133-22, rejected an amendment giving non-cash recognition awards instead of cash awards under the education bill's "Recognizing Educational Achievement" (REACH) program which gives cash to schools for improvement and achievement.

Amendment supporters said cash is the wrong approach for achievements which schools are supposed to strive for as a matter of course.

Opponents said the amendment kills the bill and said there is nothing wrong with cash which helps the schools.

A Yea vote is for the amendment providing non-cash awards. A Nay vote is for cash awards.

Havern voted no.

Gibson voted no.

Teacher Salary (H 6371). House 112-42, rejected an education amendment mandating a minimum teacher salary of \$20,000 beginning in July 1988.

Amendment supporters said it is time all teachers are paid a decent salary.

Opponents said salaries should be raised but noted the bill protects home rule while offering incentives which will encourage higher salaries.

A Yea vote is for the mandatory \$20,000 salary. A Nay vote is against it.

Havern voted no.

Gibson voted no.

Fireworks (H 6195). House first approved 76-72, then rejected 79-56, a bill allowing the sale of sparklers and their use by persons over 21 on private property between June 1 and July 7 from 6 a.m. until 12 midnight.

Supporters said sparklers are safe and claimed legalizing will reduce the desire for and sale of dangerous fireworks and explosives.

Opponents, citing cases of injuries from sparklers, said they are still dangerous and unnecessary.

A Yea vote is for the bill. A Nay vote is against it. Both roll calls are listed.

Havern voted yes on 4 and no on 5.

Gibson voted yes on 4 and yes on 5.

Auto Inspection. House 94-51, rejected a motion to suspend the rules to allow the introduction of resolutions rejecting the proposed hike by the Dukakis administration of auto inspection fees from \$10 to \$15 effective January 1.

Resolution supporters said the 50 percent hike is unnecessary and will take some \$27 million from motorists and put it in the pocket of inspection stations.

Opponents of the resolution said the hike is reasonable for stations which have invested in new equipment and spend more time on inspections.

A Yea vote is for the rule suspension to allow resolutions to defeat the hike. A Nay vote is against the resolutions and for the hike.

Havern voted no.

Gibson voted no.

411 (H 6391). House 86-51, gave initial approval to a bill allowing New England Telephone to charge residential customers for each call to directory assistance. The bill, which allows for 20 free calls per month, exempts the elderly and handicapped and provides for revenues from the charges to go towards reducing residential phone rates.

Supporters, noting 90 percent of residential customers make fewer than 20 calls to 411 monthly, said the bill will require those who use the service excessively to pay for it and return some \$17 million to ratepayers.

Opponents said the bill is simply a special interest money grab which will open the door and eventually lead to a charge for all 411 calls.

A Yea vote is for the bill. A Nay vote is against it.

Havern voted yes.

Gibson voted yes.

The Senate. "Beacon Hill Roll Call" records local senators' votes on three roll calls from the week of December 28-January 1.

Gay Rights (H 5469). Senate 16-15, refused to discharge the "gay rights" bill onto the Senate floor for a final vote. The measure prohibits discrimination in housing, credit, employment and public accommodations based on sexual preference.

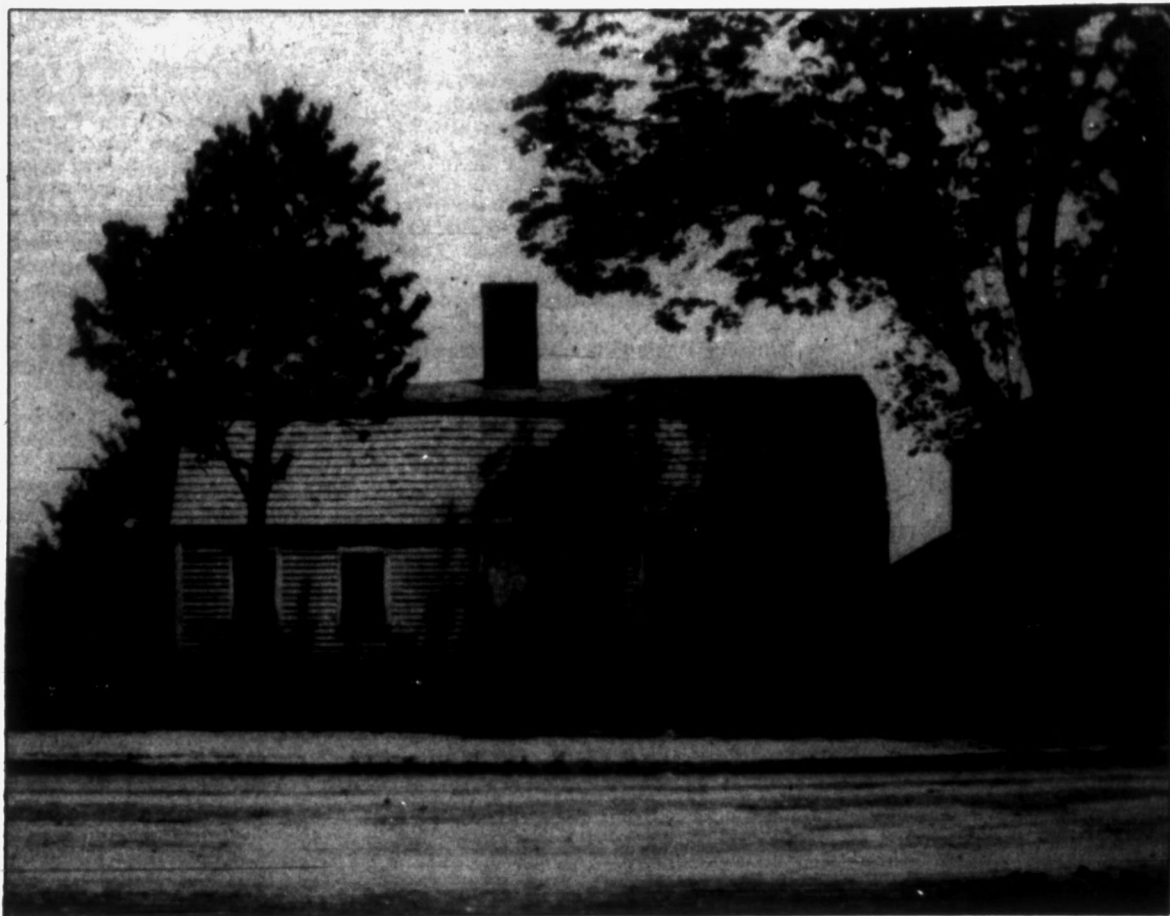
Supporters, noting the Senate has already given initial approval to the bill, said it is unfairly being held up in committee by Senator Arthur Lewis in order to kill it.

Opponents said Lewis' committee is within its rights to use the rules of the Senate to kill the bill.

A Yea vote is for discharging the bill onto the Senate floor for a vote. A Nay vote is for keeping it in committee.

Senator Richard Kraus voted yes.

Images from our past



The Captain Edward Russell house on Massachusetts Avenue between Grove Street and Schouler Court, with single center-chimney and cedar roof shingles, was representative of the smaller homes in West Cambridge, now Arlington. (Arlington Historical Society)

Guest column policy

The Advocate welcomes guest columns from those who live or work in Arlington or have an interest in an issue that affects the town or townspeople.

The more diversity of opinion, the better. The paper reserves the right to edit the columns for taste, brevity and libelous statements.

Columns should be typed, double-spaced, and sent to: The Editor, Arlington Advocate, Arlington, MA 02174 at least a week before the publication date. A telephone number where the author can be reached should be included. Got an idea? Write it down.

Letters to The Editor are welcome on matters of interest to local readers. Deadline for submission is 4 p.m. on Monday. Letters should be typed and limited to 250 words. Names will be withheld upon request. Anonymous letters will not be published.

Bear's visit signals end of era

By TERRY MAROTTA

It was hot that last summer we spent in the Berkshires. Unusually hot.

My family had been travelling to those gentle hills every June as far back as I could remember. And when we'd arrive at last in the little town of Hinsdale, it used to seem as though we'd travelled through time as well as space.

For June in the Berkshires was a springlike season still. The days were warm as cats napping on window-seats, the nights cool as corsages. Lawns crunched like lettuce underfoot; the air felt chilled.

It stayed that way too, most years, all during July and even August. And to my sister and me the place was a Child's Garden of Verses; it was Camelot; it was Eden, very nearly.

Until that last summer. That year, the heat had got wind of our whereabouts. Skies glared white at noonday. There was no rain. Our little lake dropped and fermented. Brooks fell silent. Mudpuddles stank and turned to dust.

The drought settled in and brooded above us — for two, three, four weeks, even.

Folks later said that's why the bear came down out of her sanctuary high in the hills. She'd been sighted several times all over our part of the county.

All we knew was that she was there suddenly, watching us, her dark face among a stand of berry bushes, her shoulder turning slowly back toward the forest.

For 40 years my family had run a girls' camp here. The safety of dozens of young people were entrusted to them. A colony of females, we slept nights in log cabins with thin screen doors. We had little protection. Instead of weapons, we had ideals; instead of fences, camp songs.

The closest thing to a sentry on the place was our golden retriever, Penny, and Penny had barked once in her life: at a croquet set. She ate fruit salad and dipped her long muzzle in to people's coffee when they weren't looking. She grew fat over time, and

smiled on all things, and called life good.

Together with Penny, then, we kept watch for the bear.

A couple of Rangers came one night and staked out our lake, bristling with weapons and crisp intentions. But they came up empty.

Time passed, the drought held. The bear continued to elude us. We almost came to think we'd imagined her.

And then she appeared. Not to Rangers. Not to campers. But to our sweet fat dumb dog Penny.

Each was near the lake when the confrontation occurred. Each froze at the sight of the other.

Penny, who carried herself generally with an indolent goofy abandon, shivered once and turned into a champion. She raised her chin with a look of fierce intelligence, lifted a cocked paw, and pointed.

The bear squinted at her out of dim, close-set eyes. She looked, at first glance, like someone who might have had trouble with subtraction. On closer inspection, though, she just

looked hot, and sick of wondering where the cubs went THIS time, and fed up with having to fix dinner every night.

They approached each other cautiously, speaking perhaps telepathically, and paused some 10 feet apart.

Penny may have mentioned that her kind were all pacifists. The bear may have said that hers were vegetarians. There may have even been some talk about a cache of berries to be had just over the next hill. We'll never know.

In a minute the whole thing was over. The wild animal turned back into the woods. The tame one wheeled, grinning cheerfully, and stopped to mouth a stone.

We never saw the bear again. It rained the next day, a month's worth falling in 48 hours.

Then the wind sprang up. The air cooled again.

We sold the camp that winter. And I saw that all unwitting, like every child must do at last, I had turned a corner and passed out of Eden.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mr. Amico says thanks

TO THE EDITOR:

On Dec. 25, my uncle, Warren Dolfio, passed away. On behalf of his friends and family, I would like to thank some very special people.

Dan Grannan of Grannan Funeral Home, in a time of need your professionalism and friendship were immeasurable. Office James Mangiacotti of the Arlington Police, your compassion will always be remembered, my cousins, Roger and Mike DiDonato, my brothers, Mike and Richie Amico, my friends, Gene and Flo Lucarelli, my mother, Nora Amico and my wife, Kathy, your sensitivity and hard work will never be forgotten.

Angie Amico

percent above the current fiscal year. In a matter of two years, the budget for this purpose will have increased by 80 percent.

Apart from the demand these extraordinary expenses place upon the total budget, they are only symptomatic of a much larger issue. The Arlington School Committee wishes to encourage a non-partisan legislative review of Chapter 71B. It is the Committee's belief that the Commonwealth must assume a greater share of the financial responsibility for this program.

Although the Committee continues to support the spirit of the present legislation, it believes that its ability to serve all the children of Arlington is being eroded as a result of expectations that are in conflict with the constraints imposed by Proposition 2½ and an inadequate Chapter 70 School Aid formula.

Your consideration of this request is appreciated.

Walter A. Devine
Superintendent of Schools

Devine seeks redress from local legislators

(Editor's note: This letter was directed to Arlington's legislative delegation, state Representatives Mary Jane Gibson and Robert Havern III, and state Senator Richard Kraus.)

I am writing at the request of the Arlington School Committee to express their growing concern with respect to escalating out-of-district placement costs. These placements are required under Chapter 71B of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Special Education Act for students who cannot be accommodated within the school system.

Simply stated, no other account in the Arlington School Committee's budget has increased as dramatically as the out-of-district account. For example, the current FY88 budget of \$616,657 was increased by 38 percent over the previous fiscal year appropriation. It is likely, however, that even that level of funding will prove inadequate to support current tuition projections. Already this budget is in arrears by \$100,159 with every likelihood that the deficit will increase by an additional \$50,000 before the end of FY88. As a consequence, the out-of-district account proposed for FY89 has been increased to \$878,388 or 42

Is this action showing a good example to the youth of Arlington? Before long, other restaurants with a seating capacity of less than 99 will be petitioning for similar privileges.

Let's adhere to the law that is now on the books. It has worked very well, and Arlington's quality of life has been maintained, as evidenced by the success of the Arlington High School's drug-free program.

Citizens of Arlington who have strong opinions on this issue should contact members of the Board of Selectmen on or before Jan. 11, the next Selectmen's meeting.

Nancy Higgins

Crack down to keep Arlington clean

TO THE EDITOR:

It was interesting to read a letter from a resident complaining on Dec. 24 about the neglected street cleaning. I, too, observed this situation on my street. The leaves collected on the street and when it rained they became puddles of mud which washed into the sewerage and clogged the drains. On the corner of Fairmont and Mass. Ave. the sidewalk is like a city dump with broken glass and debris scattered around. With all this negligence the Public Works Dept. is not doing its duty and the police are not enforcing our laws for cleanliness.

As someone who cares for Arlington, I am writing this letter so our officials can read how we feel and do something about it. We want our streets cleaned and our police to go after the litterbugs. There are many of us who want a clean Arlington, and now with the snow problems we want the police to crack down on over-night parking violators at all times.

Philip Eliopoulos

In remembrance of Whitney Scott

TO THE EDITOR:

It is with great sorrow that I offer my condolences to the family of

Whitney Scott, the Thompson School student, who died on Dec. 31.

Our children are the most precious part of us; the loss of Whitney is, in a sense, a loss to us all. Let us reflect on the words of the poet E. E. Cummings: "Nobody else can be alive for you, nor can you be alive for anyone else", for we are each unique and irreplaceable. And let us remember to hold our children a little closer, to show each other a little more kindness, creating the most fitting memorial to Whitney Scott, a living, ever-growing memorial of love.

Wendy Mimran

Head Start thanks donators

TO THE EDITOR:

The children, their parents and staff of Arlington Head Start wish to thank the following merchants and holiday spirited people whose time, talent and wonderful donations helped make our school's Holiday Party and Raffle such a huge success.

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K. King — P. Tobin & B. Ray
A big thank you also to Martha O'Neil and Associates for the Food Baskets to all the Arlington Head Start Families.

Holiday Greetings to you all.

M.E. Dennis
Chairperson
Arl. Head Start Parents Group

Copy Deadline

Contributions for publication submitted by 4 p.m. Monday will be considered for that Thursday's paper. Contributors are requested to submit typed, double-spaced copy.

Submission by the deadline does not, however, guarantee publication the same week, as final decisions on what to include each week are made based on space considerations.

Every attempt will be made to place time-sensitive copy in a timely manner.

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Fatal accident claims life of girl, injures sister

(Continued from page 1)

street, Carroll said. The accident in October was on a state highway.

"It's a frustrating and tragic accident," Carroll said. "The girl was doing everything she was supposed to do. She was on the sidewalk when she was struck."

On Tuesday, friends, family and schoolmates of Whitney gathered in St. Agnes Church not to dwell on the accident, but to say good-bye to the bright and cheerful girl.

Whitney had lived all her life in Arlington with her family on Franklin Street, about a block from where she was killed, friends said.

During his eulogy, Father Gillespie said family members painted a picture of a beautiful 10-year-old, very much like other girls her age.

Whitney was learning how to cook. She told secrets to her sister. Sometimes she was very forgetful, Gillespie said. "We remember she was

the girl with the bright eyes and big smile," he said.

Whitney and her sister, Lonni, were students in the fourth grade at the Thompson School in East Arlington. Their sister Courtney is in the first grade at the school.

The girls attended St. Agnes grade school until this year. Students from both schools came to the funeral.

Administrators, teachers and parents of the children at both elementary schools have worked since shortly after the accident to help the Scott family and all the students deal with the loss.

Michael F. McCabe, principal at the Thompson School, said when he learned of Whitney's death, the school's PTO officers notified parents of students in the girls' classes.

Many of parents attended the funeral with their children. The students have started counseling to

deal with their grief, said McCabe.

"We've started working with the parents and students to make sure they don't feel helpless. There are things they can do to help," said McCabe.

McCabe added, "We also met as faculty members before the funeral to do some grieving on our own. When you work with a child all day, every day, they become part of your family."

The Thompson School is planning a memorial for Whitney, but its final form has not been determined.

"She was such a happy kid, she should be remembered in a positive way," said McCabe. "We will be working in coming weeks with the family to determine the best way to remember her."

Whitney's mother, June A. (Brooks) Scott, is a nurse at Symmes Hospital, and her father, Theodore B. Scott, is an entertainer.

In closing the service Tuesday morning, Gillespie told Whitney's parents they were "strong and amazing people." Gillespie told the family that, although the question of why this happened will never be answered, there is comfort in knowing that "Whitney is now an angel of God."

McCabe and St. Agnes Principal Sister Anne Nolan gave the readings during the service. Pastor Monsignor John J. Linnehan concelebrated with Gillespie.

Tuesday afternoon students at the Thompson School spent time talking



An oil delivery truck, along with a car, upper right, careened out of control on Warren Street near Franklin Street on Dec. 31, mowing down 10-year-old Whitney Bridget Scott and injuring her sister, Teddi. Whitney was pronounced dead at the scene. The driver of the car, Paul Flynn, 23, of Arlington, has been charged with motor vehicle homicide, and reckless driving.

(Paul Drake photo)

Officials forecasting grim fiscal future

(Continued from page 1)

not "if" cuts in services, but "where" cuts will take place.

Much of the fat in the town's \$50 million annual budget has been trimmed, town department heads say. There's little opportunity for property development or growth enough to pad the coffers. Insurance, pension costs and water and sewer fees are expected to increase wildly.

A booming development climate in other Bay State towns has helped them offset constraints of limited property tax increases. But Arlington has not benefited because it has no land left for development.

Such condominium projects in construction such as Watermill, Rembrandt and Reed Brook Village won't add tax dollars to the budget until later. It will be too little, too late, officials said.

Moreover, Arlington's bond rating, the determinant of what interest Arlington pays on loans, could drop, the report said. That would cost the town millions of dollars in extra interest payments over the next decade.

What's worse, once a bond rating drops, it's virtually impossible to boost up again, as Boston — booming but with a low rating — has discovered, Bialer said.

Without hefty annual increases in state aid in recent years and a strong economy with low inflation, said Marquis, the town would have been facing deficits in the past few years.

But Marquis fears that Gov. Michael Dukakis, a strong proponent of state aid to cities and towns, may end up in Washington or out of office. His replacement may not be as sym-

pathetic to municipalities.

Federal deficits and urgent calls to reduce them point to less and less aid from Uncle Sam to states, cities and towns, Marquis said.

Equally worrisome, Marquis said, is the direction of the post-stock market crash economy. If inflation returns to a level above 3 percent, Arlington's fiscal machine would break down, Marquis predicted.

The Bank of Boston report backs him up. A worst case scenario of 6 percent annual inflation would create deficits in Arlington "from over 5 percent of revenues in 1989 to more than 14 percent of revenues by 1993," the report said.

What would be more likely is an increase in inflation to 4.5 percent. Even then, "the deficit is projected to grow from more than 3 percent of revenues in 1989 to over 6 percent in 1993," the report states.

The solution lies in finding new sources of revenue. Such ideas as Prop. 2½ overrides and public-private enterprising in the form of a Stop & Shop proposal have been soundly defeated by the Arlington public.

Marquis admitted last week that a major motivation for him in the Stop & Shop expansion proposal was the increase in revenues for the town.

"That's why it was so disappointing to me to have the School Committee go against the Stop & Shop proposal," he said. "How can we create revenue when we can't even get something small like that through?"

Arlington is, ironically, its worst enemy when it comes to state aid. The town, because of the average earnings of its residents, is seen as affluent and unneeding of state aid, Marquis said.

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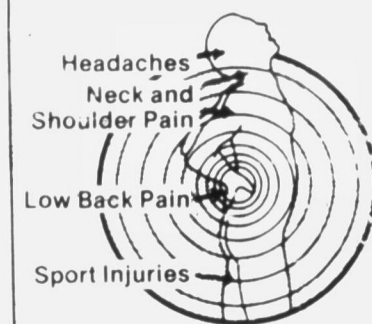
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Finding heroes close to home

(Continued from page 1)

in our current society has swung away from community life. In making community decisions, such as the Stop and Shop and Bank Five issues here in Arlington, the community quality of life must always be considered.

Including the research and interviews, LOCAL HEROES took Berkowitz four years to complete. Active in community service professionally and personally, Berkowitz was interested in writing a book about people who started from square one, who weren't trained community service professionals, who didn't have much money, resources, or institutional backing going for them.

"I decided to seek out these people, to learn from them, and to discover the common characteristics they had in their work and how those characteristics might help others. My goal wasn't to preach about the benefits of doing community work,

but to let ordinary citizens inspire others," he said.

Berkowitz spent a year doing research, contacting national agencies that deal with community service and reviewing the President's Volunteer Action Award winners, and another year shaping the direction of the book. From a list of 100 leads he contacted 36 individuals. Thirty-three responded, 22 went into the book. He noted that "it was difficult to make choices. Everyone had merit." The next two years he spent interviewing and writing.

What he ended up with was a diversity of community organizations initiated by people with a passion for their work. Some of the more familiar organizations and their founders include Mothers Against Drunk Driving (Candy Lightner); The Sunshine Foundation (Bill and Helene Sample); 9to5 (Ellen Cassedy); The Guardian Angels (Curtis Sliwa); Bread & Roses (Mimi Farina); A Christmas Dinner (Frank Bowes of Arlington); and Poor People's United Fund (Fran Froehlich).

Others are lesser known: "The Singing Bus Driver" (Wally Olson); Magic Me (Kathy Levin); The Cornville Players (Marti Stevens); The International Zucchini Festival (Chick Colony); and the St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center (Vin Quayle).

Said Berkowitz, "The commonality among these people is a passionate excitement for their work. They are totally immersed in what they do, something you don't find very often today. They also relied on traditional

moral virtues like hard work, persistence, and optimism to succeed at what they'd begun. Each one also accepted criticism, and willingly risked being called crazy once their intentions were known."

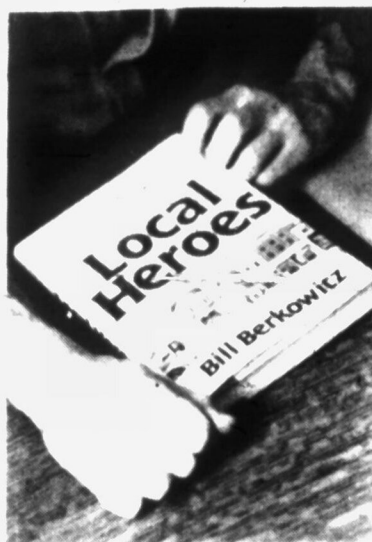
For his part, Berkowitz came away from the project with a sense of awe and humility. He said, "I've been humbled and inspired by everyone in the book. It's also made me more aware of the power of personal qualities in community work. I've come to place less emphasis on professional technique for getting things done."

"We need inspiration in American society today and it won't come from celebrities or political figures. Heroes ought to come from the community levels. Without inspirational community figures, we lose the prospect of having young people become involved in community service."

Berkowitz believes that each person has the potential to do good things, to become a 'local hero.' He said, "We need to be reminded that we have the capacity for doing great things on behalf of others. Institutions and governments, both town and national, can stimulate this. Our schools also can do more by stressing civic-minded behavior among the students."

A graduate of Cornell University with a bachelor's degree in psychology, Berkowitz holds a PhD in psychology from Stanford University. A resident of Arlington since 1974, he is a Town Meeting member and an editor of the Neighborhood Newsletter, which is distributed to homes around the Menotomy Rocks Park area.

Berkowitz has directed community outreach programs at Lowell's Solomon Mental Health Center and other places since 1973. A visiting



Berkowitz' new book examines the role of heroes in communities such as Arlington.

faculty member at the University of Lowell this year, Berkowitz is teaching courses in community psychology.

LOCAL HEROES is his third book. In 1982, he wrote a textbook COMMUNITY IMPACT, and in 1984, a compilation of ideas for enriching community life called COMMUNITY DREAMS. Some of Berkowitz's current interests are better training for community service professionals, and improving the quality of life within neighborhoods.

"With continued national and state cutbacks, neighborhood groups need to assume more responsibility for the quality of their community life," he said.

Published by Lexington Books, LOCAL HEROES is available in area book stores for \$17.95 (hardcover edition). Since November, Berkowitz has written an article on Frank Bowes' Christmas Dinner for PARADE Magazine, and appeared on WBZ-TV's PEOPLE ARE TALKING in a segment called "Holiday Heroes."

Task force seeking homes for two houses

(Continued from page 1)

tional for people. I think arguments against putting the house on Lakehill Avenue were a smoke screen," said Murray.

"I grew up in that neighborhood and people forget that on that site there was a store and trains would run through without ruining the neighborhood," said Murray, who now lives on Cape Cod.

The task force has also been unsuccessful in persuading private owners of open land in town to sell their land at market or above market rates, Murray said.

"We haven't been able to convince anyone to sell," said Murray, "we still looking for land, maybe something will come through."

One thing that has worked in the task force's favor is the delay of the Bank Five project. The bank had planned to build its development by the middle of last year, but was unable to because of project costs.

"We haven't given up, but I think the houses will be lost," said Murray.

Because the development was slated to be under way by now the two houses — one on Chandler Street, the

other on Edgerton Road — and several store fronts have been empty.

Murray said the task force will continue to look at any way of relocating the houses, but will begin to work on other areas to get affordable housing units in Arlington.

"I think we're going to have to refocus and try and work within the existing housing stock," said Murray.

Some of the problems with finding land for housing units or renovating existing run-down buildings is that some of the task force's interests run counter to those of other town boards.

"We haven't always been able to make our interests the same as those of others in town," said Murray.

Although the task force and the Arlington Housing Authority and other town boards have begun to address the issue of affordable housing, Murray said a lot of people are not concerned about making houses and apartments affordable for low and middle income people.

"I don't think [the expensive housing market] has touched enough people," said Murray. "Until it touches them directly it doesn't compute, but people in many of the service jobs can't afford to live here."

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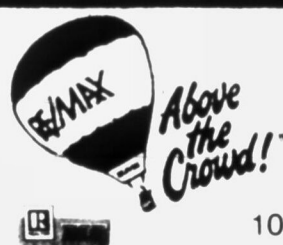
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